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referring to Project IDEALIST/TACKLE

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16 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Briefing for Special Group's Consideration
of Overflight of Communist China and
Southeast Asia

1. In pursuance of your instruction I took the draft in the briefing book on the above subject to Mr. Roger Hilsman last evening, 15 June 1961. The object of the visit was to permit him to examine the briefing, looking toward helpful criticism that would, if you like, be putting our best foot forward.

2. Capt. Jack Grayson, JCS, accompanied me. Mr. Tom Hughes, Mr. Hilsman's deputy, and Mr. Joseph Scott, State's staff member of the Special Group, were present.

3. Their comments may be summarized as follows:

- (the briefing Book)
- a. As far as it went, they had no criticism except
- b below.

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TALL TALK

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should show why, if it were true, we could not depend on satellite photography for this information, at least that on strategic targets on Communist China as distinct from the tactical situation in Indochina.

d. They asked for an explanation of the lead time on air defense capabilities in Communist China that would pose a threat to the U-2 and a comparison between that and the lead time for a capability to provide a satellite photograph of a quality that would give us the technical intelligence and other information that we desire.

e. They asked for a lead time which would be required to obtain photography prior to a military intervention in Southeast Asia, for example, or a lead time for photography which would be required in the event of needs by SAC in order to hit their targets.

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5. I told Mr. Hilsman that I would report his suggestions.

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JAMES Q. REBER
Chief

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